

REVIEWS



BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

MY QUEST FOR THE YETI

Confronting the Himalayas' Deepest Mystery

by Reinhold Messner

Pan, UK, 2001 (first pub. by St Martin's Press, USA, and Macmillan, UK, 2000)
ISBN 0-330-39086-4 (167pp pb)
Price: A\$20.00; NZ\$27.95; £7.99;
Euro14.90

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK**—Pan Macmillan, <http://www.panmacmillan.com>; **Europe**—NEXUS Office

Who better to write a book about the yeti than "the world's greatest mountaineer", Austria's Reinhold Messner, who since 1970 has completed scores of treks, some of them solo, through the Himalayas, the Tibetan Plateau and beyond.

It was in 1986 on a solo trek from eastern Tibet, retracing an ancient Sherpa route, that Messner had his own sighting of a large, dark, hairy creature that had all the appearances of the mysterious yeti—the "abominable snowman", *chemo* or *dremo* of legend. To add to the credibility of the afternoon sighting, Messner found fresh footprints and photographed them. That night he had a second, much scarier encounter. The creature towered menacingly near him, standing upright on two short legs with its powerful arms that hung down almost to its knees, but it showed great agility of movement. Messner judged it to be over seven feet tall, though it rushed off on all fours. There was a putrid stench in the air and the creature made a piercing, whistling sound.

In the years since, Messner embarked on many expeditions through the region in search of the enigmatic creature, and while it remained elusive he did record tales of encounters by the mountain people which support the age-old myths. Later, in 1998, Messner would present a selection of yeti-related material, including precise maps of sightings, to a team of scientists for analysis. His adventures are a riveting read and offer fascinating insights into the twilight zone between myth and reality.

SEPTEMBER 11

by Noam Chomsky

Allen & Unwin, Australia, 2001; published as **9-11** by Seven Stories Press, USA, 2001
ISBN 1-86508-818-8 (125pp pb, Aust)
Price: A\$17.95; NZ\$27.95; £6.99 + £1.00 p&p; Euro11.90; US\$8.95 + s&h (Adobe eBook US\$4.00)

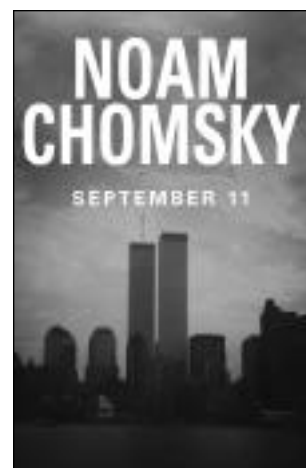
Availability: **Aust**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02) 8425 0100; **NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices (US edition in UK/Eur); **USA**—Seven Stories Press, tel (212) 226 8760, <http://www.sevenstories.com>

This compilation is not so much about the tragic events of September 11 as their root causes and possible outcomes, particularly in light of the United States' own foreign policy. A slim volume, it contains an edited selection of weighty interviews conducted with Noam Chomsky, the renowned MIT linguistics professor, author and international activist for peace and social justice.

The interviews with Prof. Chomsky span the period September 19 to October 15, 2001 (when the material was sent to press). They were mostly conducted by email by a handful of US and foreign journalists (but annoyingly, no biogs are provided).

The various topics Chomsky touches on include America's foreign incursions through the past century, the hidden agenda for Afghanistan, long-term US relations with the Saudi government and the bin Laden family, the implications of the September 11 attacks for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, the mainstream media's propaganda role, and so much more. The appendix includes the eye-opening US State Department's list of "designated FTOs"—"Foreign Terrorist Organizations"—current as at October 15 last year. It's chilling in terms of where the "War on Terror" is heading.

Chomsky speaks out against using violence to combat violence, and gives insights into how democratic peoples "can direct policies towards a much more humane and honorable course". His words are a call to people everywhere to stop and think before they blindly react. They echo as we reflect on the atrocities already perpetrated since that fateful September morning.





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BLINDSIDED – Planet X Passes in 2003: Earth Changes!

by Mark Hazlewood
Mark Hazlewood, USA, 2001
ISBN n/a (141pp tpb)
Price: US\$14.95 + s&h

Availability: **USA**—QuestPrint website, <http://www.questprint.com/blindsided/index.html>, tel (866) 947 8378

It's possibly at least three times as large as Earth and was observed by the IRAS infrared telescope in 1983. But, says Mark Hazlewood, author of *Blindsided*, knowledge about its path has been the subject of a disinformation campaign ever since. Then, in 2001, several small observatories sighted a huge red object—but in quite a different position to the 1983 object. Are they the same? The stories conflict as to whether it is an asteroid, a comet or "Planet X"—the "tenth" planet, whose existence has been calculated mathematically. What is not being publicised is that it seems to be moving closer and could be due for a dramatic flypast through our orbit (see NEXUS 8/06). Is the truth being kept from us, to avoid panic?

Hazlewood deduces from his mostly Internet sources that the mystery body is a red-glowing brown dwarf star with an orbit of approx. 3,600 years—one that apparently takes it around our Sun and its "dead" twin star, 50 billion miles away towards Orion. He suggests it's one and the same as Nibiru, the cosmic body noted by the Sumerians, discussed by scholar Zecharia Sitchin and believed to have a 3,600-year orbit. He presents geological evidence which suggests that each time it passes it causes catastrophes of varying magnitudes. It supposedly accelerates on its elliptical path, the closer it gets to the Sun—so by the time it reaches

Pluto's orbit it may take only 90 days to sweep in. If so, we could expect to see it six to eight weeks before its "crossing". Yet astronomers are keeping quiet on the existence of this body and its trajectory.

Hazlewood is convinced that the prophecies of various seers point to this hazardous return very soon, and that the next flypast is imminent: May 2003! This is no academic treatise, and time will tell how right it is, but Hazlewood is driven to help us prepare for and survive whatever may come our way.

THE LOST BOOK OF ENKI by Zecharia Sitchin

Bear & Co./Inner Traditions, USA, 2002
ISBN 1-879181-83-5 (330pp hc)
Price: A\$63.00; NZ\$72.95; £21.00 + p&p; Euro30.90; US\$24.00

Availability: **Aust**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Inner Traditions, tel (802) 767 3174, 800 246 8648, website <http://www.InnerTraditions.com>

The orientalist and biblical scholar Zecharia Sitchin (*The Earth Chronicles; The 12th Planet*) has given us a special view of the ancient world with his rigorous analyses and interpretations of written and pictographic fragments from Sumerian, Akkadian, Babylonian, Assyrian, Egyptian, Hebrew and other sources. What struck Sitchin was that even the oldest sources going back 6,000 years referred to even older books that had been lost. Yet the sources that remain do give clues as to what was contained in those earliest writings.

Readers familiar with Sitchin's work would know some of the Sumerian story of the Anunnaki, "Those Who from Heaven to Earth Came", and the rivalries between the

"gods" Enki (Ea) and Enlil. But Sitchin asked himself why one of the key players in these earliest of sagas wouldn't have recorded for posterity "the How and Where and When and Why of it all", and is convinced that Enki, "the very leader who had commanded the first group of astronauts" from Nibiru, did. So, based on the circumstantial evidence, Sitchin has recreated what the memoirs of Enki might have been like.

"The Words of Lord Enki" are written in verse on a series of 14 "tablets", as "dictated" by Enki to a master scribe, Endubsar. They tell of the foundation of Eridu after splashdown from a spaceship, goldmining operations on Mission Earth, goings-on on a way-station to Mars, the genetic manipulation that created *Homo sapiens*, Nibiru's regular orbit, the Deluge and, more recently, a nuclear calamity that destroyed Sumeria. This is an epic tale, whether or not it tells the truth of our ancient past, and Sitchin's treatment is an extraordinary achievement.



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QUEST FOR ZERO POINT ENERGY Engineering Principles for "Free Energy"

by Moray B. King

Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-932813-94-1 (212pp tpb)
Price: A\$33.00; NZ\$45.00; £12.50;
Euro18.90; US\$14.95 + s&h

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe**—
NEXUS offices; **USA**—AUP, tel (815) 253
6390, website <http://www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com>

It was only after he'd already started his exploration into the realm of "zero-point" energy that engineer Moray B. King realised he had a famous namesake predecessor in the "free energy" field: T. Henry Moray, author of *The Sea of Energy in which the Earth Floats*. That realisation in 1976 just served to strengthen his resolve to rediscover and tap the fundamental source of energy, the "holy grail" of the energetic vacuum.

Years of investigation and experimentation resulted in King's *Tapping the Zero-Point Energy*, a celebrated selection of papers published in 1989. This next book, *Quest for Zero Point Energy*, covers the period 1991–2001 and is a compilation of papers which take the ZPE theory forward with reference to various promising ideas and inventions from past and present lights, among them Viktor Schauberger, E.V. Gray, Floyd Sweet, Tom Bearden and Ken Shoulders.

Each chapter is heavily referenced and the book contains technical diagrams and patents aplenty, so this is a minefield for serious researchers. The subject matter covers vacuum energy vortices, charge clusters, vortex filaments, torsion fields, zero-point energy coherence and scalar compression—

specialised topics of vital interest to all those inventors plugging away to find a long-term, viable answer to the energy crisis.

So while we may still be waiting for a device truly able to tap into the limitless potential of space, King rekindles our hope in the elusive promise that it's all possible. But some major funding wouldn't go astray!

THE INVISIBLE COLLEGE

by Robert Lomas

Headline Book Publishing, UK, 2002
ISBN 0-7472-3969-X (374pp hc)
Price: A\$55.00; NZ\$69.95; £18.99;
Euro33.90; US\$26.95 + US\$12.00 s&h
Availability: **Aust/UK**—Hodder Headline,
<http://www.madaboutbooks.com>; **NZ**—
Hodder Moa Beckett, tel (09) 478 1000;
Europe—NEXUS Office; **USA/Canada**—
NEXUS UK Office, tel +44 1342 322854

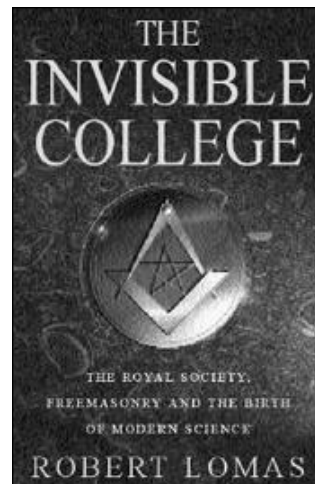
As a young engineer and scientist, Robert Lomas marvelled over the aura of the Royal Society, the world's pre-eminent scientific society founded by 12 luminaries at Gresham College near London in 1660. But he wondered how it came to be founded and who actually founded it. He discovered its members came from opposing factions and were brought together at the end of the English Civil War—within five months of the restoration to the throne of the Stuart line with Charles II. He claims they were not just "the first scientists", they were "the last sorcerers", and among them were the Rev. John Wilkins, Robert Boyle, Sir Christopher Wren and Sir Robert Moray. Common to many of them were their links with Rosicrucianism and Scottish Freemasonry.

Lomas became a Freemason in 1986, and went on to document many aspects of the craft's history, co-authoring *The Hiram Key*

and *Uriel's Machine* (see 5/02, 6/06). What he uncovers is a fascinating account of the machinations to do away with religious superstitions and introduce a new view of the physical world, based on scientific method. The chief instigator, Lomas discovers, was Sir Robert Moray, engineer, politician, diplomat, courtier and spy, who had links with Scottish Freemasonry, was once a confidant of the dreaded Cardinal Richelieu and gained the trust of Charles II. He had a hidden agenda in assisting the new king solve technical problems for his navy.

But while the Royal Society may have started out steeped in esoteric roots, after the death of its patron, Charles II, its mindset was transformed, the Jacobite influences were expunged from both the Society and English Freemasonry, and the Royal Society became "a purely scientific society".

Lomas gives a surprising new slant, not just on history but on the history of science.





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THEM: Adventures with Extremists by Jon Ronson

Picador/Macmillan, UK, 2001, rev. edition 2002; Simon & Schuster, USA, 2002
ISBN 0-330-48951-8 (337pp pb) (UK);
0-74322707-7 (337pp hc) (USA)
Price: A\$21.00; NZ\$27.95; £7.99 + £1.00
p&p; Euro30.90; US\$24.00

Availability: **Aust/NZ**—Macmillan; **UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Simon & Schuster, <http://www.simonsays.com>

While "shooting the messenger" is not usually the ideal way to get at the truth of a message, sometimes it *does* help to show up the messenger. This is just what impish English author Jon Ronson has done in *Them*, a work five years in the making (no doubt due to the overseas trips involved).

Writing himself into his adventures, he describes his encounters with individuals and groups, some of them diametrically opposed, who have been called "extremists" by others. Included in the line-up are the Ku Klux Klan, the Anti-Defamation League and Muslim fanatics, as well as others trying to get a handle on conspiracies, such as David Icke with his 12-foot reptilian shapeshifter scenarios, Randy Weaver's daughter and Jim Tucker, dedicated Bilderberg-watcher for the now-defunct *Spotlight* newspaper.

Ronson says his book "can be read as a snapshot of life in the Western world on 10 September 2001", according to the revised preface to this new paperback edition. He admits that before the September 11 events he thought some of the radicals, conspiracy theorists and fundamentalists he spent time with were "just being overly dramatic". But you've got to hand it to him: he's shown up some of these folks to be the paranoid, deluded, bigoted and misinformed people

that they are, and the interactions are at once hilarious and scary. The last chapter, on secret men's business at Bohemian Grove, is a hoot—giant owl effigy burning and all—but Ronson passes up a chance to garner any hard-core information. We are left to make up our own minds, though I suspect some readers will now only respond to "conspiracies" with ridicule rather than analysis.

TRUST US, WE'RE EXPERTS! **How Industry Manipulates Science** **and Gambles with Your Future**

by Sheldon Rampton and John Stauber

Jeremy P. Tarcher, USA, 2001, 2002

ISBN 1-58542-139-1 (360pp tpb)

Price: A\$28.00; NZ\$39.95; £11.99;

Euro18.90; US\$14.95; C\$21.99

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/USA/Canada**—Penguin, <http://www.penguinputnam.com>;
Europe—NEXUS Office

If a couple of Americans can come up with a title oozing as much irony as this one, then there's hope yet. Then again, they're the researchers who brought us *Toxic Sludge is Good for You!* and *Mad Cow USA* (see review in 5/04). John Stauber is the founder and director of the non-profit Center for Media & Democracy, and he and Sheldon Rampton write/edit the quarterly journal *PR Watch* (<http://www.prwatch.org>), a must-read for anyone interested in uncovering the hidden agendas of government and business.

While the focus of their latest book, *Trust Us, We're Experts!*, is on exposing public relations tactics in the arena of science and medicine, we can equally apply their incisive analysis to seeing through ongoing spin-doctoring by the White House and Pentagon. Any journalist who's ever had to

rehash a press release—and, let's face it, that's the vast majority these days—should take serious note of the breathtaking case studies presented here, and so should their editors. The authors argue that the PR people who manipulate perceptions believe that the public *needs* to be manipulated for its own good, and responds to ideas/news/products from an illogical, emotional perspective—an anti-popular prejudice at odds with democratic principles.

Citing an attempt in 1996 to boost the image of Monsanto's aspartame/NutraSweet to consumers who were showing "emotional and seemingly illogical responses" in the form of ill health, the authors relate how the PR team created "sweetspeak", substituting words such as "substitute" with euphemisms like "new taste" and "unique". This is just a peek into this jaw-dropping book, with imaginative chapter headings like "Dying for a Living", "Attack of the Killer Potatoes" and "The Best Science Money Can Buy".



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HEART FRAUDS

Uncovering the Biggest Health Scam in History

by Charles T. McGee, MD

HealthWise/Piccadilly Books, USA, 2002

ISBN 0-941599-56-6 (190pp tpb)

Price: £8.95; US\$13.95 + s&h

Availability: **UK**—Players Press, tel 01708 749119; **USA**—Empire Publishing Service, tel (818) 784 8918; HealthWise/Piccadilly, tel (719) 550 9887

Medicine fails when it tries to treat chronic degenerative diseases with the same approaches as for handling acute medical problems, says Charles McGee, MD, and yet 80% of modern maladies are chronic. When it comes to coronary artery disease, the condition can usually be reversed without resorting to high-technology procedures—and with the same strategies that help in preventing it in the first place.

Dr McGee has seen first-hand the dietary and lifestyle habits of traditional peoples, e.g., in the Andes of Ecuador and on Hainan, China, and noted the lack of incidence of heart attack, stroke, diabetes, etc. Intake of good, fresh, vital food that hasn't oxidised and become a breeding ground for free radicals is one reason for this. But nutrition is only one area of focus in *Heart Frauds*.

Dr McGee exposes many myths about the ability of high technology to solve heart disease and related problems. He is another one to throw the cholesterol/heart attack link out the window. And the same treatment he suggests for the angiogram, which is actually highly inaccurate and unreliable at diagnosing heart problems. He shows there is *no* evidence that coronary bypass surgery or balloon angioplasty extends life, yet, in the

US alone, over 600,000 such procedures are performed every year. It follows, then, that vested interests in the industry—specialist surgeons, equipment suppliers, laboratories, drug companies, shareholders—have much to gain from overmedicalisation.

There are alternative procedures which are very effective, low risk and relatively inexpensive, but don't rely on your GP to tell you about them. Anyone concerned about their heart health owes it to themselves to read Dr McGee's empowering book.

THE HEALER

by Jack Temple

Findhorn Press, UK, 2002

ISBN 1-899171-44-4 (190pp tpb)

Price: A\$32.00; NZ\$42.95; £8.95;

US\$13.95

Availability: **Australia**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **New Zealand**—NEXUS Office, tel (09) 405 1963; **UK**—Findhorn Press, tel 01309 690582, website <http://www.findhornpress.com>; **USA**—Findhorn Press, tel (850) 893 2920

In the early 1970s, Jack Temple was a successful organic market gardener in Surrey, England, and a regular contributor to *Here's Health* magazine. He was contemplating retirement, until he discovered dowsing and found he had a natural healing ability. He is now an extremely spritely 84-year-old who has been operating his own clinic for over 20 years, working long hours and treating patients from all walks of life, even royalty. Indeed, the Duchess of York is a satisfied client and wrote the foreword for *The Healer*, Temple's second book.

Temple has fine-tuned his dowsing technique so he can detect the presence of toxins

at specific sites in the body. With iridology and aura analysis to back up his silver pendulum diagnosis, he can remove these toxins with the help of his special homoeopathic remedies which assist the body to rebalance and revitalise itself. Combining his healing skills and experience with soil and plants, Temple uses map dowsing to pinpoint the location of some key plant or mineral—and travels the world to collect it. He has rediscovered the power of Neolithic stone circles, and utilises stones, fossils and crystals in his custom-designed treatments. In fact, he very much believes in "the power in the soil" and uses homoeopathy to harness it in liquid form. His DNA dowsing/healing is fascinating, as he can detect and clear deep blockages inherited from ancestors or past lives.

Jack Temple is a remarkable man who is passionate about passing on his knowledge and techniques to a new generation of healers. Health seekers and practitioners alike should find inspiration from the cases he cites and from his life-enhancing approach.





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DAY OF DECEIT: The Truth About FDR and Pearl Harbor

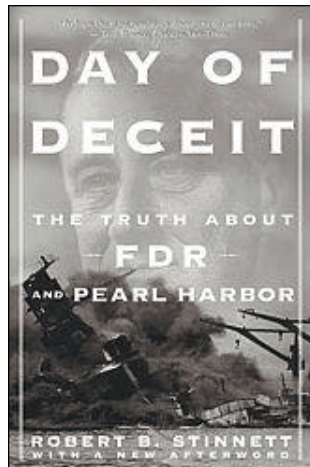
by Robert B. Stinnett

Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, USA, 2001 (with revised afterword; 1st ed. pub. 2000)
ISBN 0-7432-0129-9 (167pp tpb)

Price: A\$26.95; NZ\$34.95; £12.99;

Euro20.90; US\$16.00; C\$23.50

Availability: **Aust/UK/USA**— Simon & Schuster, <http://www.simonsays.com>;
NZ—Macmillan; **Europe**—NEXUS Office



The controversial suggestion that US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his top military and policy advisers had foreknowledge of the planned Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941 has taken decades to be confirmed.

Journalist and author Robert B. Stinnett, who served in the US Navy in 1942–46, has researched this secret for 20 years, interviewing many former Navy cryptographers, liaising with numerous military archivists and gaining access to thousands of pages of documents via the Freedom of Information Act, especially since 1994.

He says that a later release in May 2000 of over 4,000 communications intelligence documents "demolishes" the critics' assertions and proves conclusively that US radio cryptographers *had* solved the Japanese naval codes months before the attack and that the Japanese admirals did *not* keep strict radio silence, even giving away the exact day of the planned attack nearly a week beforehand. (These were released too late for Stinnett to include in the hardback edition, but a selected list is published in a new afterword to this paperback edition.)

Stinnett proves that FDR ordered eight provocations against Japan in the lead-up to the Pearl Harbor attack, believing that Americans could be rallied out of their isolationist mindset "only to oppose an overt act of war on the United States". The US Navy commanders in Hawaii were ordered

to stay put and wait for Japan to "commit the first overt act". They did so at the US Navy's peril, but achieved FDR's aim of bringing the US into World War II.

Exhaustively researched and endnoted, Stinnett's *Day of Deceit* has the power to force a rewrite of the history books.

ACID: A New Secret History of LSD by David Black

Vision Paperbacks, UK, 2001, revised edition (first published 1998)

ISBN 1-901250-30-X (215pp tpb)

Price: A\$/n/a; NZ\$39.95; £9.99;

Euro20.90; US\$15.95

Availability: **Aust**—Wakefield Press, tel (08) 8362 8800; **NZ**—Addenda, tel (09) 834 5511; **UK**—Vision Paperbacks, tel 020 7928 5599, <http://www.visionpaperbacks.co.uk>; Orca Book Services, tel 01202 665432; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558; **USA**—Mind Books, tel 1800 829 8127, website <http://www.promind.com>

The psychedelic drug LSD, or "acid", has had a colourful and chequered history, not just through 1960s counterculture but in clandestine, CIA-sponsored operations. This latter area is what particularly occupies English author David Black in his investigation, *Acid*, first published in 1998 and now expanded with new evidence in this revised edition. Looking back, we can understand how "the summer of love" could not have been sustained, despite its intellectual supporters with links to early 1960s university- and volunteer-supported LSD experiments in the search of new mental health therapies. Besides, too many people were unnecessarily hassled in crackdowns by the authorities.

Entrepreneurs with connections to organised crime, the Mafia, the Italian P-2 masonic lodge and Red Brigades as well as various international intelligence agencies were making a fortune out of the mid-1960s through 1970s LSD culture. One in particular was Ron Stark, the so-called "Godfather of LSD" who supposedly died in 1984, though Black looks at evidence hinting that he may still be alive. But years before, as we know, the CIA and military were conducting secret LSD experiments in mind and behaviour control on human guinea pigs. The research was carried out under the umbrella of *MK-Ultra*, the "black budget" project that covered for countless sub-projects every bit as inhumane as those conducted in Nazi Germany. Indeed, some former Nazis took part in these very projects.

All sorts of covert agendas within agendas, shocking intrigues and heady side-trips are exposed in Black's explosive investigation. It makes for enlightening reading.

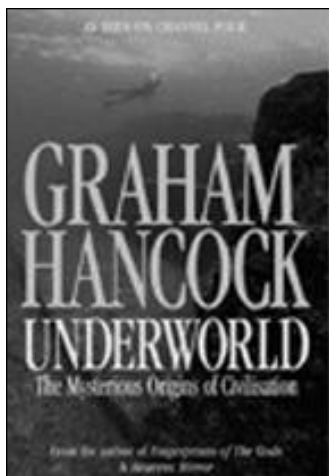
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UNDERWORLD

Flooded Kingdoms of the Ice Age by Graham Hancock

Michael Joseph/Penguin, UK, 2002
ISBN 0-718-14400-7 (741pp hc)
Price: A\$49.95 (avail. July); NZ\$65.00 +
p&h (avail. May); £20.00 + £5.00 p&p;
Euro33.90; US\$45.00 inc. s&h
Availability: **Australia**—Penguin; **NZ/UK/
Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA/Canada**—
NEXUS UK Office, tel +44 1342 322854



Our understanding of ancient civilisations has been hindered by archaeologists and historians who don't consider that other disciplines such as climatology, geology and astronomy might be able to make a contribution to the body of knowledge.

The orthodox version of prehistory makes little reference to what the world might have looked like, say, at the last glacial maximum, and this is a crucial error, says author Graham Hancock (*Heaven's Mirror; Fingerprints of the Gods*), for it ignores the possibility that advanced civilisations existed far back in "pre-Deluge" times.

Marine archaeologists have barely begun to find the vestiges of cities and civilisations that were submerged during times of rising sea levels. Hancock puts forward the astounding figure that 25 million square kilometres of land was lost at the end of the last ice age in the period between 17,000 and 7,000 years ago. While touching on examples of land lost around Australia, Europe and the Americas, his main focus in *Underworld* is on sunken ruins off the coast of northwestern India, off Malta in the Mediterranean and in the sea around China, Taiwan and Japan. Some of these sites could be described as "megalithic", though the vast Indian ruins found in the Gulf of Cambay may well be connected with the ancient Vedic civilisation (see *Twilight Zone* this issue). Looking at the maps provided, there would have to be a wealth of

ruins crying out to be found and explored.

Hancock, together with his wife/collaborator Santha Faiia—who took the splendid photos that grace the colour sections of this book—have dived amidst many of these ruins. The evidence presented here for flooded ice-age kingdoms is very exciting. A huge book, not just in size but in import.

LOVE AND DEATH IN THE VALLEY by Rev. Kevin D. Annett

Kevin Annett, Vancouver, Canada, 2002
ISBN n/a (107pp l/f spiral bound)
Price: C\$20.00 + C\$10.00 o/s p&h (make
out int. money order to Pamela Holm)
Availability: **Canada**—Rev. Kevin D.
Annett, c/- 22592-132 Ave, Maple Ridge,
BC, V4R 2R2, email kevinannett@
yahoo.ca or kevin_annett@hotmail.com,
website <http://annett55.freewebsites.com>

When I was reviewing *Hidden from History, the Report of the Truth Commission into Genocide in Canada* (see 9/01; 9/02), it struck me that Kevin Annett, who helped form the group, would have his own interesting story to tell. I was right.

Rev. Kevin Annett has now published his own account of the stories of atrocities he encountered after he accepted a United Church ministry in the Alberni Valley on Vancouver Island in 1992, as well as of the circumstances of his sacking from his ministry in 1995 and from the Church in 1997. *Love and Death in the Valley* may be a slim, spiral-bound book self-published on a small budget, but it is large in heart and integrity.

Before arriving in Alberni, Annett was a politically active minister on the streets of Vancouver, so his natural passion for truth and social justice was sparked when he came to learn of the plight of the poor and dispossessed in his new ministry—mostly Indian tribespeople. He created waves by attracting increasing numbers of indigenous locals to his open services, to the disdain of the white, well-heeled community stalwarts. He set up a food bank (dubbed "Loaves and Fishes"), allowed native chiefs and unmarried mothers their say at the pulpit, lobbied for better living conditions for the town's ghetto-dwellers, and publicly exposed the Church's involvement in state-sponsored torture, rape and murder via the residential schools system. But it wasn't until he challenged the United Church's sale to a logging company of what is legally Ahousaht land on nearby Flores Island that he was sacked. His "trial" makes a mockery of true Christian values and democratic principles.

Rev. Annett continues his vocation and his campaign for justice for native people, despite the smear tactics used against him and the cause he supports. We can all learn and take courage from his example.



REVIEWS

BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

ALL FALL DOWN: The Politics of Terror and Mass Persuasion

by William Thomas

Essence Publications, Canada, 2002

ISBN 0-9689199-2-8 (236pp l/f)

Price: C\$38.95 + s&h; US\$32.00 inc. air

Availability: **Canada**—William Thomas, Heron Rocks 1–9, Hornby Island, BC, V0R 1Z0, email willthomas@telus.net, website <http://lifeboatnews.com>

This timely compilation from William Thomas serves well as a wake-up to the agendas behind the so-called War on Terror that the USA decided to declare immediately after the September 11, 2001 attacks. It urges us to question just who the *real* terrorists are, and question we must—for if we don't, it won't be long before we have no civil liberties left to speak of.

But Americans in the main seem to have been so brainwashed as to *welcome* these restrictions, and many US allies are blindly following the Bush rhetoric, introducing draconian legislation and sending troops to defend "freedom". Thomas reminds us that the real "GOD" being fought over in the War on Terror is "Gold, Oil and Drugs"—yes, the usual suspects.

Thomas (author of *Probing the Chemtrails Conundrum* and *Bringing the War Home*) has assembled a substantial array of material from press reports and books as well as Internet sources, covering many of the unanswered questions and discrepancies in official statements surrounding the September 11 events—for example, the advance warnings, the insider stock trading fraud in the days before, the abilities of "the gang who couldn't fly straight", and the role of the CIA in the ensuing anthrax attacks.

As Thomas argues, the public has been duped by its leaders before, and they've been duped big time now. Otherwise they would not tolerate the Bush family's business dealings with the bin Laden family, or Cheney's role with Brown & Root in keeping drug supply lines open through Afghanistan, or corporate cronies' plans for a pipeline for Caspian Basin oil and gas.

Thomas implores us to empower ourselves with information and pull together to demand more humanitarian policies from our so-called leaders. He provides 20 pages of supporting references, and readers can sign up for his free email updates.

If we don't act quickly, it will soon become a treasonous act to have a dissenting public opinion. Has America created a new McCarthyism? And do the rest of us really have to go along with it?

BOOKS

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

RAMTHA: A MASTER'S REFLECTION ON THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY Part 1 – Human Civilization: Origins and Evolution

JZK Publishing, USA, 2001

ISBN 1-57873-040-6 (336pp hc)

Price: A\$/n/a (soon to be printed in Aust); £23.00; Euro38.90; US\$29.95

Availability: **Australia/NZ/South Africa**—The Great Work, PO Box 3008, Bilpin, NSW, Australia, tel (02) 4567 0202, website <http://www.the-great-work.com>; **UK**—Deep Books, tel 020 8693 0234; **Europe**—NEXUS Office; **USA**—Ramtha's School of Enlightenment, PO Box 519, Yelm, WA 98597, tel +1 (360) 458 4771, 800 347 0439 (toll free), <http://www.ramtha.com>

In 1996, a panel of twelve distinguished scholars, including scientists, religious experts, psychologists and sociologists, studied J.Z. Knight before, during and after her channelling of the entity Ramtha, using the latest technology and equipment available. They concluded that the readings from J.Z.'s autonomic nervous system were so dramatic that they categorically ruled out any possibility of conscious fakery, schizophrenia or multiple personality disorder.

Well, that takes care of the "messenger". Now, what about the "message"? One aspect that fascinates me about some channelled material, especially that of Ramtha, Seth and Bashar, is the language structure. But I digress...

Consider that the universe/space-time continuum is an artificial construct in the sense that one or more intelligences/awarenesses "created" it. Consider that myriad "planes of existence" or "space-times" coexist simultaneously (pardon the oxymoron). Consider that "we" are personified "fragments" of those who co-created this artificial construct, and that we "chose" to experience a variety of perceptions of/within our own creation. Consider that after doing so, we became "addicted" and "forgot".

Consider also that I am still not doing a good enough job of conveying the expanse of concepts that this book presents—from the cosmic Big Bang, right down to the sub-quanta of physics.

Interwoven between super-logical discussions of the nature of reality is the personal experience of the very strong personality of Ramtha—an entity who claims to have been alive during one of the many civilisations that have come and gone in our distant past.

A very thought-provoking read, with captivating historical tidbits that will keep astute NEXUS readers awake at night!

REVIEWS



MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

GUITARRA DEL FUEGO

by Johannes Linstead

Real Music, USA, 2001 (47mins)

Distributors: **USA**—Real Music, tel (415) 331 8273, website

<http://www.realmusic.com>; **Australia**—New World Music, tel (02) 9565 4522

Fresh from two previous album successes with *Sol Luna Tierra* and *Kiss the Earth*, Johannes Linstead now has progressed to his third release. *Guitarra del Fuego* features flamenco/gypsy sounds with percussion back-up on several tracks. The album contains a number of faster-paced "nouveau flamenco" glory tracks and some beautifully tender, romantic pieces. Johannes is a celebrated and passionate player, expressing the joy of life in every track. Excellent album.

MUSIC FROM THE COFFEE LANDS II

by various artists

Putumayo, USA, 2001 (45mins)

Distributors: **USA**—Putumayo World Music, tel 1888 7888 8629, website

<http://www.putumayo.com>; **UK**—Pinnacle Imports, tel 01689 870622; **Aust**—MRA, tel (07) 3849 6020

In some parts of the planet, it is said that coffee makes the world go round. It's the second most traded commodity in the world after oil. The history of coffee is fascinating, but you'll have to read the CD sleeve notes for the story. The music here is just as good. There is a fine selection of Latin, dance and bouncy, laidback music from Brazil, Portugal, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Java, Ethiopia, Haiti, Martinique and the Congo. Another Putumayo winner. Great music to go with great drinking.

ZIROQ

by Ziroq

Triloka Music, USA, 2001 (46mins)

Distributors: **USA**—Triloka Records, tel (310) 456 9063, website

<http://www.triloka.com>; **UK**—Proper Music, tel 08704 440799; **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020

A collaboration of flamenco, rock and classical Spanish music with an added touch of desert winds (from which they derived the group's name) best describes the style of Ziroq. Their sound ranges across North African, Indian, Arabic, Spanish, gypsy and the sultry, passionate sounds of Latin rock. Some of the group have a background in rock music; others in Spanish. They came together two years ago and this is their first album for Triloka. The songs

range from seductive flamenco to percussive rock, with Spanish and English vocals. Great foot-stomping, hand-clapping music.

CHAKRA SUITE

by Steve Halpern

Inner Peace Music, USA, 2001 (68mins)

Distributors: **USA**—Inner Peace, tel 1800 909 0707, <http://www.innerpeace-music.com>; **Australia**—Wild Eagle Trading, tel (03) 9819 5560

Steve Halpern has been releasing ambient and healing music for 25 years. Back in 1975, the launch of *Spectrum Suite* made a huge impression on the public and Halpern sold half a million copies worldwide.

Chakra Suite is a newer version with the original *Spectrum Suite* added. To compose this album, Halpern used a newly designed keyboard instrument that gives an ethereal sonic texture to the sounds. Whether you're tuning up your chakras or just lying in the sound to deal with daily accumulated physical stress, this album is marvellous.

LOTUS GROOVE

by various artists

Music Mosaic, Australia, 2001 (54mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—New World Music, tel (02) 9565 4522; Music Mosaic, <http://www.music-mosaic.com>; **USA**—New World Music, tel (303) 415 1040, <http://www.newworldmusic.com>; **UK**—New World Music, tel 01986 781682

The team behind a new Australian record label, Music Mosaic, from northern New South Wales, had been customising musical selections for clients on their website and decided to compile selections of favourites. *Lotus Groove* is their first album and it comprises pulsing world music of Eastern flavours and sounds, featuring kora, dulcimer, tablas, dotar, dumbek and more, with haunting vocal lines. It combines Sufi, Indian, Mediterranean, Moroccan and African sounds into an upbeat, world treat.

